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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Battle of the Badges Winners Announced**

The results are in and Summer 2006 proved Nebraskans are the “type” that give, especially when it comes to helping their community. Sept. 15, Lt.Gov. Rick Sheehy and Lincoln Mayor Coleen Seng were on hand to help recognize the winners of the Community Blood Bank’s annual “Battle of the Badges” and “Hometown Heroes” campaigns.

### **Battle of the Badges Winner**

The “Breakfast of Champions” was the time to announce the winner of this year’s “Battle of the Badges” competition. Lincoln Mayor, Coleen Seng presented the traveling trophy to Lincoln Fire & Rescue. The competition dates back to 1999 and this is the fourth time Lincoln Fire and Rescue has been named the winner. Over 300 donors participated in the 2006 competition between the Lincoln Police Dept. and Lincoln Fire and Rescue.

### **Hometown Heroes Competition**

Receiving top honors in the “Hometown Heroes” Campaign was Staplehurst Nebraska. On behalf of the Community Blood Bank, a check for \$1,000.00 was presented by the Lt. Governor to Paul Duer, Staplehurst Fire Chief. Additional awards of \$500.00 each were presented to representatives from Fairbury, Friend, Milford, Shelby, and Tamora, Nebraska. “An emergency responder sees traumatic situations where blood is needed and understands the importance of volunteer blood donors. We are pleased to award funds that can be used to purchase emergency response equipment for their community,” states Phyllis Ericson, Community Blood Bank’s CEO.

The recruitment campaign was part of the Community Blood Bank’s increased summer focus. The 21 community blood drives produced 642 units of blood during a time that is traditionally stressful for blood banks nationwide. The “Hometown Heroes” Campaign was open to all communities served by the Community Blood Bank. 2006 participants included: Fairbury, Friend, Goehner, Henderson, Hickman, Milford, Panama, Seward, Shelby, Staplehurst, Tamora and York. A total of 725 people registered to donate with 288 doing so for the first time.

.For more information about the Community Blood Bank call 486-9414 or visit the CBB web site, [www.don8bld.org](http://www.don8bld.org)

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